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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

Intelligence Community Staff

DCI/IC 76-1983

22 JUL 1976

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MEMORANDUM FOR MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

FROM :

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SUBJECT: Evaluation of External Assistance Contracts  
for Scientific and Technical (S&T) Analysis  
Support

1. The USAF/ACI, General Keegan, in a letter to the Chairman, USIB called attention to a possible wasteful duplication of effort in S&T external assistance contracts and suggested that an Intelligence Community register of external assistance contracts would effect savings in money and manpower. In response, the DCI queried the Department of State as to the utility of the Under Secretaries Committee's foreign affairs research data base as a means to effect contract coordination within the Intelligence Community. After receipt of a negative assessment, the DCI raised the issues at IRAC as a resource management problem. Subsequently, at the request of ASD/I, the Intelligence Community Staff formed an interagency ad hoc group to survey the problem and recommend solutions as appropriate.

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3. [REDACTED]

None

was found to be duplicative. The responses also pointed out that contractors and intelligence agencies working similar data frequently arrived at significantly different results, and that only after presentation and discussion of differences, often quite subtle in nature, can final conclusions be drawn with confidence. In this process some apparent duplication is desirable, and thus in a true sense is complementary. Discussions with committee members also brought out that:

a. There are overlapping responsibilities among analysis and production components of the Community.

b. NFIB committees and working groups tend to eliminate unnecessary duplication through technical exchanges and working meetings.

4. There may be some overlap within the complementary category of S&T external assistance contracts. These overlaps, however, do not appear to result from a lack of mutual "visibility" among Community agencies. The establishment and maintenance of a master register of S&T contractual statements therefore would not provide measurable savings in S&T analysis resources, or enhance the quality of the work performed. It is apparent that significant gains in resource efficiencies could not be anticipated without clear delineations of responsibility between NFIP S&T intelligence production elements.

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